

Miss SWOSU Teen Lacey Russ Wins Oklahoma Title and Miss SWOSU Sarah Simpson Wins Awards

06.14.2010

Oklahoma will be represented in the Miss America Pageants by Miss Oklahoma Outstanding Teen Lacey Russ (left) of Cordell and Miss Oklahoma Emoly West of Edmond. Russ won the Miss Oklahoma Outstanding Teen Pageant representing Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford.

Miss SWOSU Sarah Simpson won several awards at the Miss Oklahoma Pageant including the Miss Congeniality Award, non-finalist award and a \$1,000 SWOSU Scholarship.

Miss Southwestern Oklahoma State University Outstanding Teen Lacey Russ of Cordell won the title of Miss Oklahoma Outstanding Teen at Miss Oklahoma Pageant activities in Tulsa, and Miss SWOSU Sarah Simpson of Elk City also won several awards at the Miss Oklahoma Pageant held June 12.

Russ will now represent SWOSU and the state of Oklahoma at the Miss America Outstanding Teen Pageant August 24-28 in Orlando, Florida.

Russ, who will be a senior at Cordell High School this fall, won the Oklahoma title among 33 contestants and also a \$2,500 cash scholarship. She also won the Academic Award and Interview Award among the contestants.

In the Miss Oklahoma competition, Simpson won the Miss Congeniality Award and \$400, a \$350 non-finalist award and a \$1,000 SWOSU Scholarship.

Other finalists in the Miss Oklahoma Outstanding Teen Pageant were first runner-up Miss Oklahoma City Heather Rassmussen; second runner-up Miss Edmond LibertyFest Sarah Staats; third runner-up Miss Oklahoma City University Madison Pride; and fourth runner-up Miss RiverWalk Emily Elkins.

Russ, who won the SWOSU competition this past November, wowed the audience with her piano solo combining the styles of Bach and Beethoven's flair in Bach's "Prelude XXI" and Beethoven's "Sonate Pathetique." She impressed the judges in the interview session with her platform issue: P.U.R.E. Excellence, encouraging a commitment to a lifestyle of purity. .